



Sen. Joe Zarelli
P.O. Box 40418
203 Irv Newhouse Bldg.
Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 786-7634
Zarelli_jo@leg.wa.gov
1-800-562-6000

Committee Assignments

Capital Budget (Chair)
Ways & Means (Vice Chair)
Education (Vice Chair)
Economic Development
(Vice Chair)
Financial Services, Insurance
& Housing

IMPORTANT DATES:

Wednesday, Feb. 5 Home School Day

10:00 am: Senate session –
Home School Resolution,
Columbia Resolution,
regulatory reform bills and
ergonomics bill.

1:30 pm: Senate Education
Committee will hold public
work session on Home
Schooling

Thursday, Feb. 6 8:00 am: (*) Senate Judiciary Committee will hold public hearing on **SB 5269** and **SB 5270**.

Sen. Joe Zarelli's

UPDATE FROM OLYMPIA

2/4/03

Dear Friends,

I know you join me in extending my heartfelt condolences to the friends and families of the astronauts onboard the Columbia. This weekend's tragedy is a stark reminder of the possible price NASA's brave men and women pay to be the ultimate pioneers. Our thoughts and prayers are with these selfless heroes.

A quick update on my "felony murder" legislation: It passed the Senate last week on a unanimous 49-0 vote. I expect Senate Bill 5001 to pass the House of Representatives sometime this week. My thanks to all of you who have called in support of this legislation. The testimony at the committee hearing was imperative to the bill's passing.

Wednesday of this week is Home School Day. We will pass a resolution on the Senate floor honoring home school parents and students. Also on Wednesday, the Senate will pass a resolution honoring and remembering those lost on the Columbia.

On Thursday, two bills important to our state's security will be heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee:

- ***SB 5269** – Creates a statewide mapping system for buildings owned by the state or local governments. Local law enforcement and fire fighters are "first responders" in the majority of natural disasters, criminal acts and acts of terrorism. The mapping system will allow first responders to have foreknowledge of floor plans, evacuation plans, utility plans and other key pieces of information. The plan will be funded from federal grants. Privately owned buildings can participate at their own expense.
- *** SB 5270** – Creates a law enforcement mobilization policy board and plan. The purpose of the plan is to provide a process to quickly notify, assemble, and deploy law enforcement personnel and equipment to local jurisdictions that have expended all available resources. This is especially critical in rural areas or in areas hit by natural disasters or terrorist actions.

As always, please contact my office with any concerns or questions.

Sen. Joe Zarelli, 18th Legislative District

Legislature: Trimmed budget advances

Senate Republicans on Wednesday passed a short-term budget that would cut spending between April and June and adopt early several of Gov. Gary Locke's deficit reduction proposals. The cuts would save \$127 million by July, Republicans said. If the cost-cutting policies are carried forward, they would save \$250 million over the following two years.

"That's a chunk of change," said Ways and Means Vice Chairman **Joe Zarelli**, R-Ridgefield. "That's a very good reason for supporting this supplemental budget – so we can do a better job with the next two years." – *The Columbian*, 1/30/03